Non-Payment of Salaries to the Employees of Selser Marketing Ltd.

3568. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that employees of the Selser Marketing Limited, Calcutta and its marketing companies throughout India have not received their salaries since July, 1987;

(b) whether a memorandum was received by Government on the 10th January, 1990 in this regard;

(c) if so, the salient features of the said memorandum: and

(d) the steps taken by Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (d) A representation was received from the Selser Marketing and Allied Concerns Employees' Union dated 9-4-90 that the employees of the Selser Marketing Ltd., Calcutta had not received their wages and other dues. The Central Government has requested the Government of West Bengal which is the appropriate Government under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 in respect of this establishment to take appropriate action in this regard.

Change of Government Accommodation

3569. SHRI THOMAS KUTHIRAVATTOM : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whethe Government servants are allowed change of Government accommodation on medical grounds and also on other grounds; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof together with the number of such changes allowed during the last three years in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No such record is cerntrally maintained.

Filling up of Vacancies in Southern Railway

3570. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railway Recruitment Board had issued an Employment Notice *vide* number 1/87 in 1987 for filling up 464 vacancies in the Southern Railway;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a written test was held on the 15th November, 1987;

(c) whether the results of the above written test was withheld on the plea of C.B.I. enquiry into some irregularity in the test;

(d) whether it is a fact that even after the C.B.I. report that there was no leakage of questions, the Railway Recruitment Board ordered for second written test for the candidates for posts announced through Employment Notice 1/87;

(e) if so, the reasons for the second test;

(f) whether Government are considering calling the candidates who had passed the test on 15th November, 1987 for interview without insisting for appearing in the second test; and

(g) the number of candidates belonged to SC/ST and other backward classes appeared in the examination ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir, except that the inquiry was held not by CBI but by CID State Police, Tamilnadu.

(e) A statement is attached. (*See below*)

(f) Inteviews having already been conducted for this examination, the question of calling the candidates again for interview does not arise. However, the question of holding the second written examination is presently *sub judice* as a sequel to some of the candidates having filed a case against this decision in the High Court, Madras.

(g) Out of 1946 candidates called for the second written test, 412 belonged to Scheduled Caste and 215 belonged to Scheduled Tribe communities. However, the statistics for backward classes as such are not maintained .

Statement

(e) CID State Police made inquiries on the basis of an F.I.R. lodged by Railway Recruitment Board, Madras that during the examination, one candidate was found copying from a small chit which contained the answers to the objective type of questions for the examination and leakage of question papers was suspected in connivance with some persons. After inquiries, CID State Police closed the case as "mistake of facts" on the ground that it was only a solitary case and the connivance of the persons named in the F.I.R. in the leakage of the question papers could not be established. However, subsequent vigilance inquiries conducted on receipt of fresh complaints and information revealed that this was not a solitary case but answers of a large proportion of the top candidates were found to be the same as contained in the recovered chit. Even then the process of selection was continued by holding interviews of the candidates who qualified for the same. But during the interview, it was noticed that the performance of a large number of candidates was grossly incompatible with their performance in the written test.

It was, therefore decided that a second written examination for the candidates who had qualified for interview, may be held, which, while providing equal opportunities to these candidates to complete, will also ensure fair selection in the public interest. Accordingly, the Railway Recruitment Board, Madras issued orders for the second written examination.

Instructions for fire protection measures Issued by CSIR

3571. PROF. SOURENDRA BHATTACHARJEE : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is fact that the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research had issued instructions to various Government Departments in or around April, 1990 for taking various fire protection measures;

(b) whether the CSIR had suggested among other fire safety measures the use of fire protection doors and windows to be used in multi-stroyed buildings of the Government and in various other public premises;

(c) whether CSIR's instructions in the matter have not been acted upon by a number of Government agencies so far;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what further steps are being taken to get the fire safety rules followed and to use fire protection doors and windows ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research had not conveyed any instructions of the Government in relation to fire protection and fire safety measures. In April, 1990 the CSIR brought to the notice of the various Ministries and Departments of the Government of India the technologies available from the CSIR laboratories in these areas. Such technologies include fire treatment of doors, windows and partitions made of wood, Glass Reinforced Gypsum Boards as a substitute for wood and fire-proofing of thatched roofs.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

3572. [*Transferred to the 6th September,* 1990.]

Social welfare projects/Activities carried on by Catholic Relief Services

3573. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) what are the various social welfare projects/activities carried on in different parts of the country by the Catholic Relief Services, a voluntary organisation based in New Delhi; and whether certain allegations of misuse of funds and materials by them have been reported recently in the press;

(b) the total foreign amounts received by this organisation from the USA annually and what check is exercised by the Government to ensure proper utilisation of the money received by them; and